

**Introduced by Senators Romero, Alquist, Kuehl, Lowenthal,  
Ortiz, Scott, and Soto**

January 13, 2006

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 71—Relative to American Heart Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 71, as introduced, Romero. American Heart Month.

This measure would recognize February 2006, as American Heart Month in California in order to raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women. The measure would also recognize February 3, 2006, as Wear Red for Women Day in California, and urge all citizens to become aware of vital issues of women's heart health by wearing and displaying the color red on that day.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Heart disease is the leading cause of death and  
2 stroke and is the third leading cause of death in California and  
3 the United States; and  
4 WHEREAS, Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) is the number  
5 one cause of death for women, claiming the lives of nearly  
6 one-half a million American women each year, which is equal to  
7 nearly one death every minute; and  
8 WHEREAS, CVD claims the lives of more women than the  
9 next six leading causes of death combined, including all cancers;  
10 and  
11 WHEREAS, Each year, 53 percent of women die from CVD  
12 as compared to 46 percent of men, and 40,000 more women than  
13 men die from stroke; and

1 WHEREAS, Only 38 percent of women report that their  
2 doctors have discussed CVD with them when discussing their  
3 health; and

4 WHEREAS, Only 13 percent of women perceive heart disease  
5 as their greatest risk; and

6 WHEREAS, Stroke is the number one cause of serious,  
7 long-term disability; and

8 WHEREAS, Sixty-three percent of women who die suddenly  
9 from coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of the  
10 disease; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2006 the estimated direct and indirect costs of  
12 heart disease and stroke total \$403.1 billion in the United States,  
13 and the economic burden in California is estimated to be over  
14 \$45 billion; and

15 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is the largest  
16 voluntary, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to reduce  
17 disability and death from heart disease and stroke; and

18 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is committed to  
19 conducting and supporting medical research that advances  
20 knowledge in the areas of prevention and treatment of CVD; and

21 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association strives to  
22 inform all citizens about the critical importance of tools and  
23 skills that will increase the survival rate of women from heart  
24 disease and stroke; and

25 WHEREAS, Go Red for Women is the American Heart  
26 Association's national call to increase awareness of heart disease  
27 and to inspire women to take charge of their health; and

28 WHEREAS, Go Red for Women educates women on their  
29 risks, warning signs, and symptoms of cardiovascular disease and  
30 empowers women to live longer and stronger lives; and

31 WHEREAS, Wear Red for Women Day is recognized  
32 nationwide each year to highlight the Go Red for Women  
33 campaign; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
35 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the month of  
36 February 2006 as American Heart Month in California in order to  
37 raise awareness of the effect of heart disease on women; and be it  
38 further

39 *Resolved*, That the Legislature recognizes February 3, 2006, as  
40 Wear Red for Women Day in California and urges all citizens to

1 become aware of the vital issues of women's heart health by  
2 wearing and displaying the color red on that day; and be it further  
3 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges public support for Go  
4 Red for Women events planned in their community during the  
5 2006 American Heart Month; and be it further  
6 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
7 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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